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**MILWAUKEE COUNTY EMS
OPERATIONAL POLICY
TRANSPORT DESTINATION**

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Reference:
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POLICY: Patients are to be transported to the closest, most appropriate, open receiving hospital, taking into consideration:

- Patient's medical condition;
- Patient's request;
- Location of regular care, primary medical doctor and/or medical records;
- Insurance/HMO.

Patients in need of specialty care should be transported to the closest appropriate receiving facility, based on the following information:

Patient Assessment:	Specialty Hospital:
Medical emergencies (paramedic receiving)	<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <div style="width: 60%;"> Aurora Sinai Children's Hospital of Wisconsin Columbia St. Mary's – Columbia Campus Community Memorial Elmbrook Memorial Froedtert Memorial Lutheran St. Francis St. Joseph St. Luke's – Milwaukee </div> <div style="width: 35%;"> St. Luke's - South Shore Columbia St. Mary's – Milwaukee Campus Columbia St. Mary's – Ozaukee Campus St. Mary's - Racine St. Michael Zablocki VA Medical Center West Allis Memorial/Women's Pavilion Wisconsin Heart Hospital </div> </div>
STEMI (Acute MI per pre-hospital EKG)	Transport to the closest, most appropriate open hospital except : Elmbrook Memorial, St. Luke's - South Shore, West Allis Memorial/Women's Pavilion, Zablocki VA Medical Center
Need for Trauma Center evaluation Burns and/or possible CO poisoning WITH major/multiple trauma	Children's Hospital of Wisconsin Froedtert Memorial Lutheran
Possible CO poisoning with altered mental status, WITHOUT burns/major trauma	Transport to the closest: St. Luke's - Milwaukee Columbia St. Mary's – Milwaukee
Significant burns (thermal, chemical or electrical) <i>with or without</i> possible CO poisoning WITHOUT major trauma	Columbia St. Mary's - Milwaukee
Other hyperbaric (air embolism, decompression disease, bends)	Transport to the closest: St. Luke's - Milwaukee Columbia St. Mary's - Milwaukee
Major pediatric illness/injury	Children's Hospital of Wisconsin
Pediatric burns (Age <8)	Children's Hospital of Wisconsin
Unstable newborns	Transport to the closest Neonatal Intensive Care Unit: Children's Hospital of Wisconsin St. Joseph's Columbia St. Mary's - Milwaukee Aurora Sinai
Sexual assault - WITHOUT co-existing life threatening condition	Adults (age 18 and over): Aurora Sinai West Allis Memorial Emergency Department Children (under age 18): Children's Hospital of Wisconsin
OB patients in labor	1. Facility where patient received their prenatal care is preferred. Hospitals never close to women in labor. 2. For imminent delivery, transport to the closest hospital, except VA, St. Luke's – Main Campus and St. Luke's - South Shore and St. Michael
Psychiatric Emergencies Medical clearance needed	Closest Emergency Department
No medical clearance needed/patient is at high risk for harm to self or others, and/or is behaviorally disruptive (should be placed on Emergency Detention)	Psychiatric Crisis Service of Milwaukee County Mental Health Division (PCS)
No medical clearance needed/patient is at low risk for harm to self or others (police involvement not required)	1. If patient is seen in the Milwaukee County Mental Health system (MCMHD), transport to the Psychiatric Crisis Service (PCS) center on a voluntary basis 2. If not an MCMHD patient, transport to closest Emergency Department for mental health evaluation

NOTES:

- No patient should be transported to a closed hospital under any circumstances.
- Hospitals that provide specialty services never close to that specialty.
- EMSsystem will post transport instructions for extenuating circumstances.